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MAY 27 2004

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From: Lani Fellows on 05/27/2004 07:34 AM
To: Robin L Sweeney/YD/RWDOE@CRWMS, Lee Morton/YM/RWDOE@CRWMS
cc:
Subject: comment - Kelley Kolberg

User Filed as: Excl/AdminMgmt-14-4/QA:N/A

Please see attached rail route comment.

----- Forwarded by Lani Fellows/YM/RWDOE on 05/27/2004 07:33 AM -----



Naomi Lewis
05/27/2004 06:24 AM

To: BSC Correspondence Control Unit@CRWMS
cc: Lani Fellows/YM/RWDOE@CRWMS
Subject: Public Inquiry

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----- Forwarded by Naomi Lewis/YM/RWDOE on 05/27/2004 06:24 AM -----

Public Inquiry

May 26, 2004 18:14:56

IP address: 4.243.218.80
Name: Kelley Kolberg
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Comments:

It is truly frightening that this proposed rail line hugs the border of the Nellis Air Force bombing range for hundreds of miles. An accidental or intentional aircraft crash or bombing of a high-level radioactive waste train could release catastrophic amounts of radioactivity impacting large areas downwind and downstream.

It is similarly frightening that this railway would pass so closely by mining operations, raising the specter of accidental or intentional explosions of high-explosives used in mining.

It is very troubling that much of the land has never been evaluated or inventoried for threatened and endangered species of wildlife. A comprehensive assessment of animals and plants in the targeted rail corridor must be done during DOE's environmental impact statement process. DOE should pay for such work to be done by an independent organization that can be trusted to not allow political or economic pressures to bias its wildlife survey.

It is unacceptable that DOE would trample Native American rights by constructing this railway. The entire Caliente-to-Yucca Mountain railway would lie on lands belonging to the Western Shoshone Indian Nation under the Treaty of Ruby Valley, which the U.S. government signed and ratified in 1863. Such treaties with sovereign Native American tribes are the highest law of the land, equal in stature to the U.S. Constitution itself, and DOE should not violate the Treaty of Ruby Valley by building this proposed railway, or by building the Yucca Mountain dump. DOE's proposed rail line and dump immorally

and illegally threaten cultural resources, archaeological sites, artifacts, sacred sites and holy lands of the Western Shoshone and other Native American tribes.

It is dangerous to public and worker health that DOE's proposed rail line is likely blanketed with radioactivity from nuclear weapons testing fallout from the Nevada Test Site. Given that large scale railway construction would disturb massive amounts of contaminated soil and release radioactive dust into the air, DOE must do a complete inventory of the radioactive contamination of the proposed land corridor. After all, it was the Atomic Energy Commission and DOE itself that conducted those nuclear weapons tests and caused that radioactive contamination in the first place.

Papermail: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
